

April 24, 2006

Dear Emergency Care Providers,

We have been alerted to an outbreak of severe overdoses and deaths associated with heroin use in southern New Jersey, Maryland, Philadelphia and Chicago. These reactions appear to be related to the substitution, at least in part, of the heroin with methyl-fentanyl. The presence of methyl-fentanyl has been confirmed in several samples from Maryland.

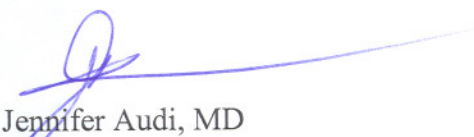
Please report any patient you feel may be having a reaction to heroin use, overdose or any deaths attributed to heroin use, to the Nebraska Regional Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222, or in Omaha, 955-5555.

Thank you for your time and vigilance with this matter,

Sincerely,


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